

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 USUN N 05608 041740Z

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SUBJ: 30TH UNGA-EXPLANATION OF VOTE ON KOREAN QUESTION BY
CAMEROON'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OYONO, OCTOBER 29,
1975

REF: (A) YAOUNDE 3656

(B) USUN 5591

1. ON OCTOBER 29, CAMEROON'S PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE
OYONO GAVE THE FOLLOWING EXPLANATION OF VOTE ON KOREAN
QUESTION:

MR. OYONO(UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON) (INTERPRETATION FROM FRENCH):

MR. CHAIRMAN, SINCE I AM SPEAKING FOR THE FIRST TIME, PERMIT ME TO
ASSOCIATE MYSELF WITH THE WARM CONGRATUATIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN
EXTENDED TO YOU ON YOUR ELECTION TO THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THIS
COMMITTEE AND WITH THE GOOD WISHES FOR YOUR SUCCESS. I SHOULD LIKE TO
ADD A PERSONAL NOTE, BECAUSE I KNOW YOU: I APPRECIATE YOUR HUMAN
WARMTH AND YOUR DIPLOMATIC QUALITIES, AND I AM CONVINCED THAT
UNDER YOUR ENLIGHTENED LEADERSHIP OUR WORK WILL BE SUCCESSFUL.

FOR A WEEK NOW THERE HAS BEEN A VERY INTERESTING DEBATE IN THIS
COMMITTEE, ONE THAT HAS BEEN VERY CONSTRUCTIVE AND USEFUL IN MANY
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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 USUN N 05608 041740Z

WAYS, ON THE SUBJECT OF THE DEFINITION OF THE POLITICAL AND JURIDICAL

MEANS CAPABLE OF CREATING CONDITIONS FAVOURABLE FOR TRANSFORMING THE ARMISTICE INTO A DURABLE PEACE IN KOREA AND ACCELERATING THE INDEPENDENT AND PEACEFUL REUNIFICATION OF THE COUNTRY.

OUR COMMITTEE HAS BEFORE IT TWO DRAFT RESOLUTION ON THIS SUBJECT (A/C.1/L.708/REV.1 AND A/C.1/L.709). WHILE THEY AIM AT THE SAME NOBLE PURPOSE--THE REUNIFICATION OF KOREA, WHICH HAS SINCE 1945 BEEN ARTIFICIALLY DIVIDED, THROUGH THE VICISSITUDES OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION OF THE TIME, INTO TWO MORE OR LESS EQUAL ZONES OF ANTAGONISM ON EITHER SIDE OF THE 38TH PARALLEL--THE TWO DRAFT RESOLUTION DO DIFFER AS TO THE WAYS AND MEANS OF RAPIDLY ACHIEVING THAT PURPOSE.

THIS LEGACY OF THE COLD WAR, THE DIVISION OF THE KOREAN STATE INTO TWO STATES WITH FUNDAMENTALLY OPPOSED IDEOLOGIES HAS CONTINUALLY HARDENED OVER THE YEARS, DESPITE THE PROGRESSIVE IMPROVEMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION. THE TWO STATES HAVE DEVELOPED SEPARATELY, BOUND AND CIRCUMSCRIBED WITHIN THE ZONES OF INFLUENCE WHERE THEY WERE PLACED TO SUCH A DEGREE THAT THE PROSPECTS FOR THEIR EFFECTIVE REUNIFICATION BECAME A MATTER FOR CONJECTURE ALL THE MORE. SINCE ANTAGONISM BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND SOUTH KOREA WAS BORN OF AND MAINTAINED BY THE PERSISTENT ANTAGONISM, FIRST NAKED AND LATER CAMOUFLAGED, OF THE GREAT POWERS, IN THAT PART OF SOUTH-EAST ASIA.

MY DELEGATION IS GRATIFIED AT THE FACT THAT THIS SITUATION, THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSEQUENCES OF WHICH AROSE FROM THE PAROSYSMS OF THE COLD WAR, HAVE IN NO WAY WEAKENED THE DETERMINATION OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE IN THEIR STRUGGLE FOR NATIONAL UNITY. THE DIVISION OF KOREA INTO TWO STATES HAS BECOME ALL THE MORE ANACHRONISTIC BECAUSE THE WORLD WHICH WAS LED TO THE BRINK OF ANNIHILATION BY CONFRONTATION, AT THE CULMINATION OF THE COLD WAR, HAPPILY IN ALL CONSCIENCE OPTED FOR DETENTE, UNDERSTANDING AND CO-OPERATION.

IN THE LIGHT OF THIS EVOLUTION IT IS WRONG FOR THE KOREAN PEOPLE, DIVIDED IN 1945, TO REMAIN DIVIDED IN 1975. THAT IS WHY WE WELCOME THE SPIRIT AND LETTER OF THE NORTH-SOUTH JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF 4 JULY 1972, AND THE DECISION ON THE REUNIFICATION OF KOREA ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AT THE TWENTY-EIGHTH UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 USUN N 05608 041740Z

SESSION.

THE CONSISTENT POSITION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON ON THIS MATTER HAS OFTEN BEEN STATED BY THE MOST AUTHORIZED SPOKESMAN. THAT POSITION IS DICTATED BY THE CONCERNS FUNDAMENTAL TO OUR FOREIGN POLICY. FIRSTLY, CAMEROON KNOWS FROM ITS OWN EXPERIENCE THE PRICE OF NATIONAL UNITY, AND REMAINS DEEPLY DEVOTED TO IT. WE ARE HAPPY TO NOTE THAT THIS

CONCEPT IS CLEARLY REFLECTED IN BOTH DRAFT RESOLUTION. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT, BEYOND ALL IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES, THE KOREAN PEOPLE WANT TO RECOVER THEIR NATIONAL UNITY WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THEIR TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY. THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON WISH TO MAINTAIN AND DEVELOP CLOSE LINKS OF UNDERSTANDING, FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION WITH ALL THE PEOPLE OF KOREA. THAT IS THE ORIENTATION OF THE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN MY COUNTRY AND THE GOVERNMENTS OF NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA.

SECONDLY, OUR POSITION IS BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF OTHER COUNTRIES. SPEAKING ON 30 SEPTEMBER LAST IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THE FOREIGN MINISTER OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF CAMEROON VIGOROUSLY REAFFIRMED OUR DEVOTION TO THESE PRINCIPLES. JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF 4 JULY 1972 PROVES THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA ARE BOTH AWARE OF THE NEED TO SEEK THE REUNIFICATION OF THEIR COUNTRY THROUGH FRATERNAL DIALOGUE FREE FROM ALL FOREIGN INTERFERENCE. THEREFORE THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGN TROOPS IN EITHER PART OF KOREA SEEMS TO US OBVIOUSLY LIKELY TO HINDER THE CONTINUATION OF THIS DIALOGUE IN ALL FREEDOM. SINCE, IN ADDITION, THE WAY IN WHICH THE UNITED NATIONS HAS BECOME INVOLVED IN THIS THE DISSOLUTION OF THE UNITED NATIONS COMMAND IS AN URGENT REQUIREMENT.

THE CONTROVERSY AS TO THE WAY IN WHICH DISSOLUTION SHOULD BE BROUGHT ABOUT, APPREHENSIONS AS TO THE RISKS THAT MAY BE INVOLVED IN THE CREATION OF A POSSIBLE MILITARY VACUUM BECAUSE OF SUCH DISSOLUTION--ALL SUCH SPECULATIONS FAIL TO TAKE SUFFICIENT ACCOUNT OF THE EXPRESSED DETERMINATION OF THE TWO PARTIES NEVER TO RESORT TO FORCE FOR THE SETTLEMENT OF THEIR PROBLEMS OF NATIONAL UNIFICATION.

CAMEROON HAS NO REASON TO DOUBT THE SINCERITY OF THAT
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UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 USUN N 05608 041740Z

SOLEMN DECLARATION. THAT IS WHY WE CONSIDER THAT THE JOINT COMMUNIQUE OF NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA AND THE PEACE AGREEMENT THAT WILL REPLACE THE ARMISTICE AGREEMENT BETWEEN NORTH KOREA AND THE UNITED NATIONS, REPRESENTED BY THE UNITED STATES, CONSTITUTES A SOUND AND SOLID BASIS FOR CREATING CONDITIONS FAVOURABLE FOR THE REUNIFICATION OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE.

MY DELEGATION WILL THEREFORE VOTE FOR THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IN DOCUMENT A/C.1/L.709, WHICH WE CONSIDER TO BE MOST IN ACCORD WITH THE ASPIRATIONS OF THE KOREAN PEOPLE, SINCE THAT DRAFT RESOLUTION AIMS AT CONFERRING ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY THE POWER OF CREATING AN EFFECTIVE AND RAPID MEANS FOR RESTORING PEACE AND UNITY ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA. IN VOTING THUS, MY DELEGATION IS ALSO CONCERNED TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE IMMEDIATE CESSATION OF THE JURIDICAL AND MILITARY FICTION THAT HAS

BLEMISHED THE NAME OF OUR ORGANIZATION, WHICH SHOULD REMAIN
SYNONYMOUS WITH PEACE AND PEACEFUL DIALOGUE. OF COURSE, MY
GOVERNMENT WILL CONTINUE TO ASSOCIATE ITSELF WITH ALL INITIATIVES
AIMED AT ENCOURAGING THE TWO PARTIES TO ACCELERATE THE PROCESS
OF REUNIFICATION BY PEACEFUL MEANS FREE FROM ANY THREATS
OR ATTEMPTS AT AGGRESSION. CONSEQUENTLY, MY DELEGATION
CANNOT SUPPORT THE DRAFT RESOLUTION IN DOCUMENT A/C.1/L.708/REV.1.
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